

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 24, 2022

Autism Task Force to meet Feb. 28 to learn about employment opportunities for persons with autism spectrum disorder

BISMARCK, N.D. – The state's Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Task Force will meet Monday, Feb. 28, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. CT, by video conference to learn about various employment opportunities that could benefit persons with an autism spectrum disorder. The employment-focused presentations will highlight the Kelly Discover program, the state's Medicaid 1915(i) supported employment services, and workforce development funds offered through the North Dakota Department of Commerce.

Members will discuss updates to the ASD state plan and review current enrollment and expenditures for the state's Medicaid ASD waiver, ASD voucher program and services offered under the applied behavior analysis Medicaid state plan amendment.

The agenda also includes updates on workforce efforts and discussion on bylaw revisions. Other topics will also be discussed.

The meeting agenda is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

The task force meeting is open to the public and will be held by Microsoft Teams and by conference call at 701-328-0950, conference ID 208031424#. Details are in the <u>public meeting notice</u>.

People who need accommodations to participate should contact Krista Fremming prior to the meeting at 701-328-2342, toll-free 800-755-2719, 711 (TTY) or krfremming@nd.gov.

The legislature created the task force in 2009; members are appointed by the governor. The task force is responsible for reviewing early intervention and family support services that enable persons with ASD to live at home or in community settings, and programs helping individuals with ASD to transition from school-based settings to adult services and workforce development programs. In addition, the task force monitors the provision of services, and reviews, amends and updates the ASD state plan to better meet the needs of persons with ASD.

Autism spectrum disorder services information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html, and task force information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html.

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MEDIA CONTACTS: